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SECURITY INFORMATION

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**SUBJECT**

Alleged Soviet Proposal for Austrian Treaty

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Stalin allegedly gave an "interview" on the subject of an Austrian peace treaty to Josef Dobretsberger, presumably during the latter's recent visit to the Moscow Economic Conference. Dobretsberger, a professor at the University of Graz, ranks high in the Democratic Union and it is known that his sympathies lie with the East. The following purports to be the substance of the interview:
  - A) The Soviet Union is opposed to any form of skeleton treaty built on unilateral agreement (sic) and supports the immediate conclusion of a treaty with Austria on the basis of the Moscow Declaration of 1943.
  - B) The Soviet Union would voluntarily renounce its claim to 150,000,000 dollars' worth of German properties in Austria's favor, and would return all USIA factories to the Austrian government by treaty agreement. Furthermore, the USSR would turn over Austria's already guaranteed share of her own oil resources.
  - C) The Austrian government must obligate itself, after the conclusion of the treaty, to remain neutral, and to enter into no military alliances (Buendnisse) directed against the Soviet Union or its Allies.
  - D) By endorsing these conditions, and by signing the treaty, Stalin would personally obligate himself to guarantee complete freedom and independence to Austria, and would assure her that no outside influence would be exerted on the internal organization of the country and the form of the Austrian government.
2. According to the source, the first object of this interview is to influence public opinion in Germany in connection with Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's effort to carry out the ratification of the contractual agreement and the EDC treaty. Stalin's declaration is to be announced at the most opportune moment for obtaining the desired objective; this moment to be chosen by the Soviets. Irrespective of the developments in Germany, it is possible that Stalin gave

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the interview before the Austrian elections to increase Dobretsberger's chances of election. If the contractual agreement is not ratified prior to the Austrian elections, an announcement will probably be made during the campaign. The Austrian Communist Party is not aware of the interview, and the information contained in it is limited strictly to Dobretsberger's secret circle.

- 25X1 1. Comment: The Austrian Democratic Union represents the neutrality point of view and is close to the Nauheimer Kreis in Germany. Professor Dobretsberger is a member of the World Peace Council and led the Austrian delegation at the Moscow Economic Conference.
- 25X1 2. Comment: Stated as received. The subsource is probably meant.

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